

# Labour Force Survey Report

Prince Edward Island

May 2023 Release

WorkPEI

June 9, 2023

Every month, Statistics Canada releases Labour Force Survey (LFS) data. The releases include unadjusted and seasonally adjusted data related to the local labour market (labour force, employment and unemployment). The data presented in this report has been adjusted for seasonality. Most estimates associated with the labour market are subject to seasonal influence in which the data experiences regular and predictable changes that recur every calendar year (i.e. due to climate, vacations, holidays, etc.). The employment figures presented in the LFS is an estimate of employed Island residents and should not be interpreted as number of jobs (as reported in Statistics Canada's Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours).

## Labour Force Survey – Brief

### Summary

Historical 2020-22		Current Period						
		May-23	Apr-23	May-22	M-M	% Chg	Y-Y	% Chg
135.3	Population (000's)	144.0	143.3	138.7	0.7	0.5	5.3	3.8
88.6	<b>Labour force (000's)</b>	95.9	96.3	92.6	-0.4	-0.4	3.3	3.6
80.3	<b>Employment (000's)</b>	89.0	89.5	85.6	-0.5	-0.6	3.4	4.0
67.7	Employment full-time (000's)	76.2	75.3	72.1	0.9	1.2	4.1	5.7
12.7	Employment part-time (000's)	12.7	14.2	13.5	-1.5	-10.6	-0.8	-5.9
8.3	<b>Unemployment (000's)</b>	6.9	6.8	6.9	0.1	1.5	0.0	0.0
9.4	Unemployment rate (%)	7.2	7.1	7.5	0.1		-0.3	
65.5	Participation rate (%)	66.6	67.2	66.8	-0.6		-0.2	
59.3	Employment rate (%)	61.8	62.5	61.7	-0.7		0.1	

Source: Table 14-10-0287-03; "Historical 2020-22" is provided as average values over the past 3 years for historical context.

- The **labour force** totaled 95,900 in May 2023, a decrease of 400 persons in comparison to the previous month. The labour force was 3.6% higher when compared to May 2022.
- **Employment** totaled 89,000 in May 2023, a decrease of 500 persons in comparison to the previous month. Employment levels were 4.0% higher from a year ago. There was a year over year increase in **full-time employment** (+4,100) and a decrease in **part-time employment** (-800).
- **Unemployment** totaled 6,900 in May, an increase of 100 persons from the prior month. There was no change in the number of unemployed persons in comparison to the same period a year ago.
- The **unemployment rate** increased month over month and sits at 7.2%. The rate is 0.3 of a percentage point lower than May 2022 (7.5%).
- The **participation rate** was 66.6% in May; this represents a decrease of 0.2 of a percentage point from a year-over-year perspective. The PEI participation rate is higher than the national average (65.5%) in May and sits fourth highest among provinces behind Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

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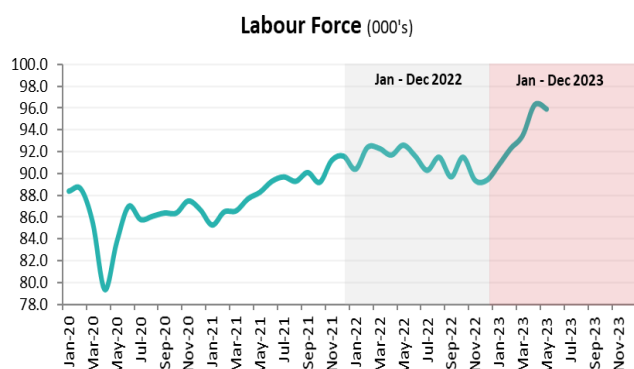
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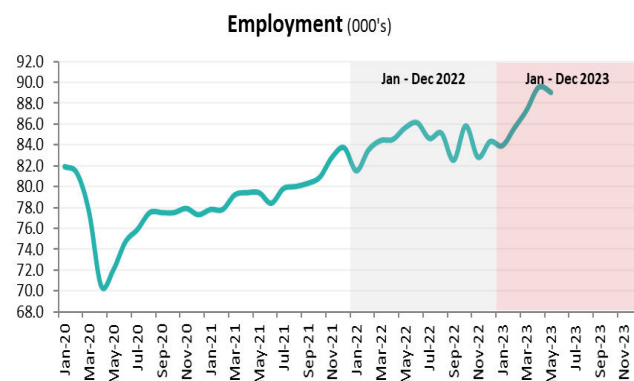
## LFS - Progress Report

LFS data is released on a monthly basis. The purpose of this section is to track the progress of key labour market indicators. "Year-to-date" (YTD) compares average values of available months in 2023 to the same in 2022.



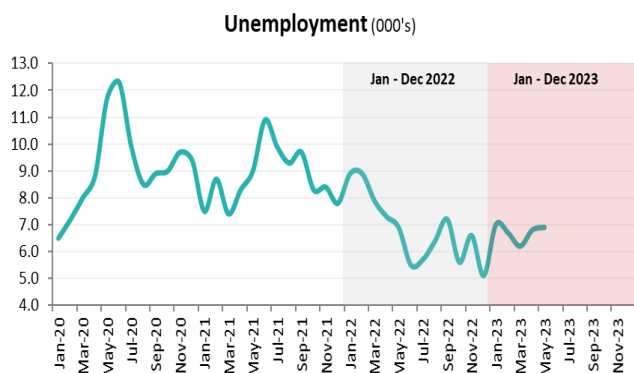
	2022	2023	Level	Percent
('000)	YTD	YTD	Chg	Chg
Population	137.7	142.7	5.0	3.6%
Labour Force	91.9	93.8	1.9	2.0%
Not in LF	45.8	48.9	3.1	6.9%
Participation rate (%)	66.7	65.7	-1.0	-

The labour force decreased in comparison to the previous month and increased when compared to the same month a year earlier. Labour force figures are the second highest all-time. The labour force is 1,900 more persons YTD over the same period last year. On a YTD basis, the participation rate is 1.0 percentage point lower than same period last year and sits at 65.7%.



	2022	2023	Level	Percent
('000)	YTD	YTD	Chg	Chg
Employment	83.9	87.1	3.2	3.8%
Full-time	71.0	73.5	2.6	3.6%
Part-time	12.9	13.5	0.6	4.3%
Employment rate (%)	60.9	61.0	0.1	-

Employment decreased month over month due to declines in part-time employment. The figure is second highest all-time figure (dating back to 1976). For the third consecutive month, full-time employment established a new all-time high (dating back to 1976). The YTD increase in employment in 2023 is mainly driven by YTD growth in full-time employment.



	2022	2023	Level	Percent
('000)	YTD	YTD	Chg	Chg
Unemployment	8.0	6.7	-1.3	-15.8%
Unemployment rate (%)	8.7	7.2	-1.5	-

There was an increase in unemployed persons in comparison to the prior month along with an increase in the unemployment rate. However, the figures are lower or at the same level as the same month a year earlier. The unemployment rate is the eighth lowest figure on record. On a YTD basis, the number of unemployed persons in 2023 is 1,500 persons lower than the same period in 2022.

Note: Not all values sum up due to rounding

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## Young Worker Cohort (15-24 Years)

('000's)	Historical	Current: 2023 YTD		
	2020-22	Both	Male	Female
Labour force	14.1	15.0	8.0	6.9
Employment	12.1	13.0	6.8	6.1
Unemployment	2.0	2.0	1.2	0.8
Unemp rate (%)	14.3	13.7	14.9	12.0

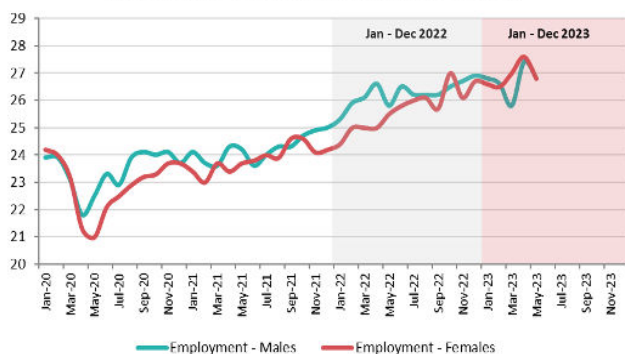
Overall, labour force and employment increased year over year in May 2023. There were 200 more females and 100 more males employed in comparison to a year earlier. For full-time employment, females (+800) saw an increase and males (+400) saw an increase. Part-time employment decreased for females (-600) and decreased for males (-300). The unemployment rate for this cohort was 10.6%.

Employment by Gender: 15-24 Age Cohort (000's)



## Core-age Cohort (25-54 Years)

Employment by Gender: 25-54 Age Cohort (000's)



('000's)	Historical	Current: 2023 YTD		
	2020-22	Both	Male	Female
Labour force	52.8	56.8	28.6	28.2
Employment	48.8	53.6	26.7	26.9
Unemployment	4.0	3.2	1.9	1.3
Unemp rate (%)	7.7	5.6	6.8	4.5

In May, employment increased for females (+1,300) and increased for males (+1,000) in comparison to May 2022. On a FT basis, year over year employment increased for females (+800) and males (+1,100). On a PT basis, there was a year over year increase for females (+500) and a decrease for males (-100). The unemployment rate increased for males (to 9.2%) and decreased for females (to 4.3%) on a year over year basis.

## Older-worker Cohort (55 Years +)

('000's)	Historical	Current: 2023 YTD		
	2020-22	Both	Male	Female
Labour force	21.6	22.0	12.4	9.6
Employment	19.4	20.5	11.2	9.3
Unemployment	2.2	1.5	1.2	0.4
Unemp rate (%)	10.2	6.8	9.5	3.7

Employment levels decreased for males (-100) and increased for females (+400) in May 2023 in comparison to April 2023. On a year over year, basis there were 600 more females and 200 more males employed. There were fewer females (-100) and more males (+100) in the labour force when comparing May 2023 to May 2022.

Employment by Gender: 55+ Age Cohort (000's)



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## LFS – Industry Perspective (Employment)

The following presents LFS employment estimates by industry for Prince Edward Island.

Historical 2020-22		Current Period					2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
		May-23	Apr-23	May-22	M-M	Y-Y			
80.3	<b>Total industries ('000s)</b>	<b>89.0</b>	<b>89.5</b>	<b>85.6</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>87.1</b>	<b>83.9</b>	<b>3.2</b>
20.1	<b>Goods-sector</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>-0.9</b>
3.4	Agriculture	3.7	3.6	3.0	0.1	0.7	3.3	3.3	0.0
2.5	Other primary	1.8	1.6	2.6	0.2	-0.8	2.0	2.3	-0.4
0.3	Utilities	0.2	0.3	0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.3	0.3	0.0
6.5	Construction	7.0	7.3	7.2	-0.3	-0.2	7.0	7.3	-0.3
7.4	Manufacturing	8.4	8.4	8.6	0.0	-0.2	8.3	8.4	-0.1
60.3	<b>Services-sector</b>	<b>67.8</b>	<b>68.3</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>66.3</b>	<b>62.3</b>	<b>4.0</b>
11.3	Wholesale/retail trade	11.3	10.4	11.1	0.9	0.2	10.9	11.3	-0.4
2.5	Transport/Warehousing	2.2	2.1	1.9	0.1	0.3	2.1	2.2	-0.1
3.0	Fin/Ins/Real estate	3.8	3.5	3.0	0.3	0.8	3.5	2.8	0.7
4.4	Prof/ scientific/technical	5.1	4.3	4.7	0.8	0.4	4.6	5.0	-0.4
2.3	Business/building/other	1.8	2.3	2.4	-0.5	-0.6	2.3	2.0	0.3
5.9	Educational services	6.2	7.0	6.0	-0.8	0.2	6.4	5.8	0.6
11.3	Health/social assistance	14.3	14.2	11.9	0.1	2.4	13.9	11.8	2.1
2.5	Info/culture/rec	2.9	3.0	4.1	-0.1	-1.2	2.9	2.8	0.2
4.5	Accomm/food services	5.5	6.1	5.1	-0.6	0.4	5.3	5.0	0.3
3.3	Other services	3.7	4.1	3.6	-0.4	0.1	3.6	3.8	-0.1
9.2	Public administration	11.0	11.2	10.0	-0.2	1.0	10.7	9.7	1.0

Data source: Table 14-10-0355-02; "Historical 2020-22" is provided as average values over the past 3 years for historical context.

Note: Not all values sum up due to rounding

There were 67,800 persons employed in the **Services-producing sector** in May 2023, comprising 76.1% of PEI's industrial employment base. There was a year-over-year increase of 3,900 persons employed in the service-sector. There was year over year growth in Wholesale and retail trade (+200), Transportation and warehousing (+300), Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (+800), Professional, technical and scientific services (+400), Educational services (+200), Health care and social assistance (+2,400), Accommodation and food services (+400), Other services (except public administration) (+100) and Public administration (+1,000). There was a year over year decrease in Business, building and other support services (-600) and Information, culture and recreation (-1,200).

There were 21,200 persons employed in the **Goods-producing sector** in May 2023, resulting in a decrease of 600 persons employed compared to a year ago. There was a year over year increase in Agriculture (+700). There was a year over year decrease in Other Primary (-800), Utilities (-100), Construction (-200) and Manufacturing (-200).

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## LFS – Industry Perspective (Average Hourly Wages)

The following presents LFS average hourly wages by industry for Prince Edward Island.

Historical 2020-22		Current Period						
		May-23	Apr-23	May-22	M-M	Y-Y	2023 YTD	2022 YTD
25.5	<b>Total industries ('000s)</b>	<b>27.64</b>	<b>27.62</b>	<b>26.27</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>1.37</b>	<b>27.97</b>	<b>26.71</b>
23.3	<b>Goods-sector</b>	<b>25.82</b>	<b>25.37</b>	<b>24.75</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>1.07</b>	<b>26.14</b>	<b>25.28</b>
19.7	Agriculture	19.68	19.92	22.90	-0.24	-3.22	21.58	22.90
26.6	Other primary	24.90	31.94	25.27	-7.04	-0.37	28.23	32.17
39.1	Utilities	45.42	44.24	29.42	1.18	16.00	43.97	39.83
23.4	Construction	26.43	25.47	23.65	0.96	2.78	25.81	24.70
23.6	Manufacturing	27.62	26.33	25.53	1.29	2.09	27.07	25.31
26.2	<b>Services-sector</b>	<b>28.22</b>	<b>28.23</b>	<b>26.80</b>	<b>-0.01</b>	<b>1.42</b>	<b>28.45</b>	<b>27.14</b>
18.6	Wholesale/retail trade	19.87	19.89	18.55	-0.02	1.32	20.21	19.08
24.4	Transport/Warehousing	23.06	22.95	29.15	0.11	-6.09	23.93	25.23
27.3	Fin/Ins/Real estate	29.35	29.80	26.77	-0.45	2.58	31.28	29.76
30.3	Prof/ scientific/technical	34.54	32.72	31.55	1.82	2.99	31.13	32.25
17.8	Business/building/other	21.87	19.81	20.75	2.06	1.12	19.42	20.79
33.7	Educational services	33.72	32.08	32.73	1.64	0.99	32.97	33.24
28.0	Health/social assistance	29.62	29.27	28.87	0.35	0.75	30.50	28.25
23.0	Info/culture/rec	21.74	21.89	23.27	-0.15	-1.53	22.99	24.18
15.9	Accomm/food services	18.72	17.33	16.54	1.39	2.18	17.57	16.20
22.6	Other services	24.30	25.11	24.16	-0.81	0.14	24.23	25.15
34.5	Public administration	36.90	38.52	35.34	-1.62	1.56	37.59	35.41

Data source: Table 14-10-0063-01; "Historical 2020-22" is provided as average values over the past 3 years for historical context.

The average hourly wage rate across all industries was \$27.64/hr in May 2023, this represents an increase of 5.2% in comparison to the same month a year earlier. On a year to date basis, the average hourly rate is 4.7% higher in 2023 (\$27.97/hr) in comparison to the same period in 2022 (\$26.71/hr).

The wages for the **Services-producing sector** was \$28.22/hr in May 2023, which is 5.3% higher than the wage rate a year earlier. There was year over year wage growth in Wholesale/retail trade (\$1.32/hr or 7.1%), Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (\$2.58 or 9.6%), Professional, scientific and technical services (\$2.99/hr or 9.5%), Business, building and other support services (\$1.12/hr or 5.4%), Educational services (\$0.99/hr or 3.0%), Health care and social assistance (\$0.75/hr or 2.6%), Accommodation and food services (\$2.18/hr or 13.2%), Other services (except public administration) (\$0.14/hr or 0.6%) and Public administration (\$1.56/hr or 4.4%).

The average hourly wage rate for the **Goods-producing sector** was \$25.82/hr in May 2023, which is 4.3% higher than the wage rate a year earlier. Year over year growth for wages occurred in Utilities (\$16.00/hr or 54.4%), Construction (\$2.78/hr or 11.8%) and Manufacturing (\$2.09/hr or 8.2%).

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## LFS – Regional Perspective

The following compares LFS estimates and changes among the Atlantic Provinces and nationally, by month and year.

### Regional Comparison of Labour Market Indicators YEAR-over-YEAR Changes

(000's)	CA	NL	PE	NS	NB
<b>Labour force</b>	<b>21,205.9</b>	<b>260.5</b>	<b>95.9</b>	<b>522.0</b>	<b>409.9</b>
Level	382.5	-1.0	3.3	2.1	9.1
Percent	1.8%	-0.4%	3.6%	0.4%	2.3%
<b>Employment</b>	<b>20,112.9</b>	<b>233.8</b>	<b>89.0</b>	<b>492.1</b>	<b>384.8</b>
Level	365.0	-0.7	3.4	7.7	11.8
Percent	1.8%	-0.3%	4.0%	1.6%	3.2%
<b>Unemployment</b>	<b>1,093.0</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>25.1</b>
Level	17.5	-0.3	0.0	-5.6	-2.7
Percent	1.6%	-1.1%	0.0%	-15.8%	-9.7%
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>6.1</b>
Level	0	-0.1	-0.3	-1.1	-0.8

### **Newfoundland and Labrador**

NL experienced a year-over-year decrease in employment in May 2023 (-0.3%).

On year over year basis, the unemployment rate in NL decreased 0.1 of a percentage point in May 2023 to 10.2%.

### **Nova Scotia**

Employment in Nova Scotia increased year-over-year (+1.6%).

On a year over year basis, their unemployment rate decreased 1.1 percentage points to 5.7%.

### Regional Comparison of Labour Market Indicators MONTH-over-MONTH Changes

(000's)	CA	NL	PE	NS	NB
<b>Labour force</b>	<b>21,205.9</b>	<b>260.5</b>	<b>95.9</b>	<b>522.0</b>	<b>409.9</b>
Level	17.5	-4.1	-0.4	-8.8	1.2
Percent	0.1%	-1.5%	-0.4%	-1.7%	0.3%
<b>Employment</b>	<b>20,112.9</b>	<b>233.8</b>	<b>89.0</b>	<b>492.1</b>	<b>384.8</b>
Level	-17.3	-4.2	-0.5	-5.2	1.2
Percent	-0.1%	-1.8%	-0.6%	-1.0%	0.3%
<b>Unemployment</b>	<b>1,093.0</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>25.1</b>
Level	34.8	0.1	0.1	-3.6	0.0
Percent	3.3%	0.4%	1.5%	-10.7%	0.0%
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>6.1</b>
Level	0.2	0.1	0.1	-0.6	0

### **New Brunswick**

New Brunswick saw a 3.2% increase in year over year employment.

On year over year basis, their unemployment rate decreased by 0.8 of a percentage point to 6.1%.

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## LFS – Growth Indicators and Provincial Rankings

The following compares and ranks growth estimates for select labour market indicators across provinces.

### YEAR OVER YEAR – PROVINCIAL RANKINGS

(Current month vs same month a year ago)

#### WORKING AGE POPULATION

##### YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Prince Edward Island	3.8%
2	Alberta	3.6%
3	New Brunswick	2.9%
4	Nova Scotia	2.8%
5	Saskatchewan	2.6%
6	Manitoba	2.1%
7	Ontario	2.0%
8	British Columbia	1.8%
9	Newfoundland and Labrador	1.5%
10	Quebec	1.3%
	Canada	2.1%

#### LABOUR FORCE

##### YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Prince Edward Island	3.6%
2	Manitoba	3.3%
3	Alberta	2.7%
4	New Brunswick	2.3%
5	Ontario	1.8%
6	Quebec	1.7%
7	British Columbia	1.7%
8	Nova Scotia	0.4%
9	Saskatchewan	0.3%
10	Newfoundland and Labrador	-0.4%
	Canada	1.8%

#### EMPLOYMENT

##### YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Prince Edward Island	4.0%
2	New Brunswick	3.2%
3	Manitoba	2.9%
4	Alberta	2.8%
5	Quebec	2.1%
6	Ontario	1.7%
7	Nova Scotia	1.6%
8	British Columbia	1.0%
9	Saskatchewan	0.6%
10	Newfoundland and Labrador	-0.3%
	Canada	1.8%

#### FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

##### YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Prince Edward Island	5.7%
2	Manitoba	5.2%
3	New Brunswick	3.0%
4	Alberta	2.2%
5	Ontario	1.7%
6	Newfoundland and Labrador	1.5%
7	Quebec	1.5%
8	British Columbia	1.3%
9	Saskatchewan	0.5%
10	Nova Scotia	0.2%
	Canada	1.8%

#### PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

##### YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Nova Scotia	8.5%
2	Alberta	5.7%
3	Quebec	5.1%
4	New Brunswick	4.5%
5	Ontario	1.5%
6	Saskatchewan	0.7%
7	British Columbia	-0.2%
8	Prince Edward Island	-5.9%
9	Manitoba	-6.7%
10	Newfoundland and Labrador	-9.3%
	Canada	2.2%

#### AVG HOURLY WAGES

##### YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Newfoundland and Labrador	8.2%
2	British Columbia	7.0%
3	New Brunswick	6.6%
4	Quebec	5.4%
5	Prince Edward Island	5.2%
6	Ontario	5.1%
7	Manitoba	5.0%
8	Nova Scotia	3.1%
9	Saskatchewan	3.0%
10	Alberta	2.9%
	Canada	5.1%

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## LFS – Growth Indicators and Provincial Rankings

The following compares and ranks growth estimates for select labour market indicators across provinces.

### YEAR TO DATE – PROVINCIAL RANKINGS

(Average: January to current month relative to the same period a year ago)

#### WORKING AGE POPULATION

##### YEAR TO DATE

1	Prince Edward Island	3.6%
2	Alberta	3.3%
3	New Brunswick	2.8%
4	Nova Scotia	2.7%
5	Saskatchewan	2.4%
6	Manitoba	1.9%
7	Ontario	1.8%
8	British Columbia	1.5%
9	Newfoundland and Labrador	1.3%
10	Quebec	1.2%
	Canada	1.9%

#### LABOUR FORCE

##### YEAR TO DATE

1	Alberta	3.0%
2	New Brunswick	2.8%
3	Quebec	2.3%
4	Nova Scotia	2.1%
5	Prince Edward Island	2.0%
6	Manitoba	2.0%
7	Ontario	1.5%
8	British Columbia	1.4%
9	Saskatchewan	0.8%
10	Newfoundland and Labrador	0.5%
	Canada	1.9%

#### EMPLOYMENT

##### YEAR TO DATE

1	New Brunswick	3.9%
2	Prince Edward Island	3.8%
3	Alberta	3.5%
4	Nova Scotia	3.1%
5	Newfoundland and Labrador	2.8%
6	Quebec	2.7%
7	Ontario	2.2%
8	Manitoba	2.0%
9	British Columbia	1.5%
10	Saskatchewan	1.4%
	Canada	2.4%

#### FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

##### YEAR TO DATE

1	Alberta	4.3%
2	Manitoba	4.2%
3	Prince Edward Island	3.6%
4	Ontario	2.8%
5	British Columbia	2.5%
6	New Brunswick	2.4%
7	Quebec	2.2%
8	Newfoundland and Labrador	2.1%
9	Nova Scotia	2.1%
10	Saskatchewan	1.1%
	Canada	2.8%

#### PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

##### YEAR TO DATE

1	New Brunswick	12.9%
2	Nova Scotia	8.0%
3	Newfoundland and Labrador	6.6%
4	Quebec	4.8%
5	Prince Edward Island	4.3%
6	Saskatchewan	2.5%
7	Alberta	0.0%
8	Ontario	-0.4%
9	British Columbia	-2.5%
10	Manitoba	-7.3%
	Canada	0.7%

#### AVG HOURLY WAGES

##### YEAR TO DATE

1	Quebec	6.1%
2	British Columbia	6.0%
3	Newfoundland and Labrador	5.8%
4	Nova Scotia	5.4%
5	Manitoba	5.3%
6	New Brunswick	5.3%
7	Ontario	5.0%
8	Prince Edward Island	4.7%
9	Alberta	3.1%
10	Saskatchewan	2.9%
	Canada	5.1%